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EDITORIAL NOTE

THE Editor has not thought it necessary to attach any lengthy descriptions or critical comments to the series of pictures here presented. They are the work of British Artists who have themselves served in His Majesty's Forces, or who have been granted permission to visit the various war areas, both on land and sea, and they speak for themselves. They are something more than mere renderings of scenes and events; rather should they be considered as the direct and personal impressions of men who have come into close contact with the realities of war, its emotions, its horrors, and its flood of human activity, and have given expression to them through the medium of their art. The "made-up" or imaginary composition has been carefully avoided; indeed many of the original sketches have been produced under difficult and dangerous conditions in or behind the lines, on the sea, or in the air. The present war does not offer the spectacular effects of colour and movement such as inspired the brush of a Meissonier; a landscape painter is perhaps best qualified to render a battlefield of to-day. Through the collection of works shown here we are enabled to obtain an insight into the character and spirit of modern warfare in its varied aspects.

The Editor desires to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. Alfred Yockney, of the Ministry of Information, and Major Charles Ffoulkes, F.S.A., of the Imperial War Museum, for the valuable assistance they have rendered him in the preparation of this volume; and to thank the various artists and owners who have kindly lent their works for reproduction.

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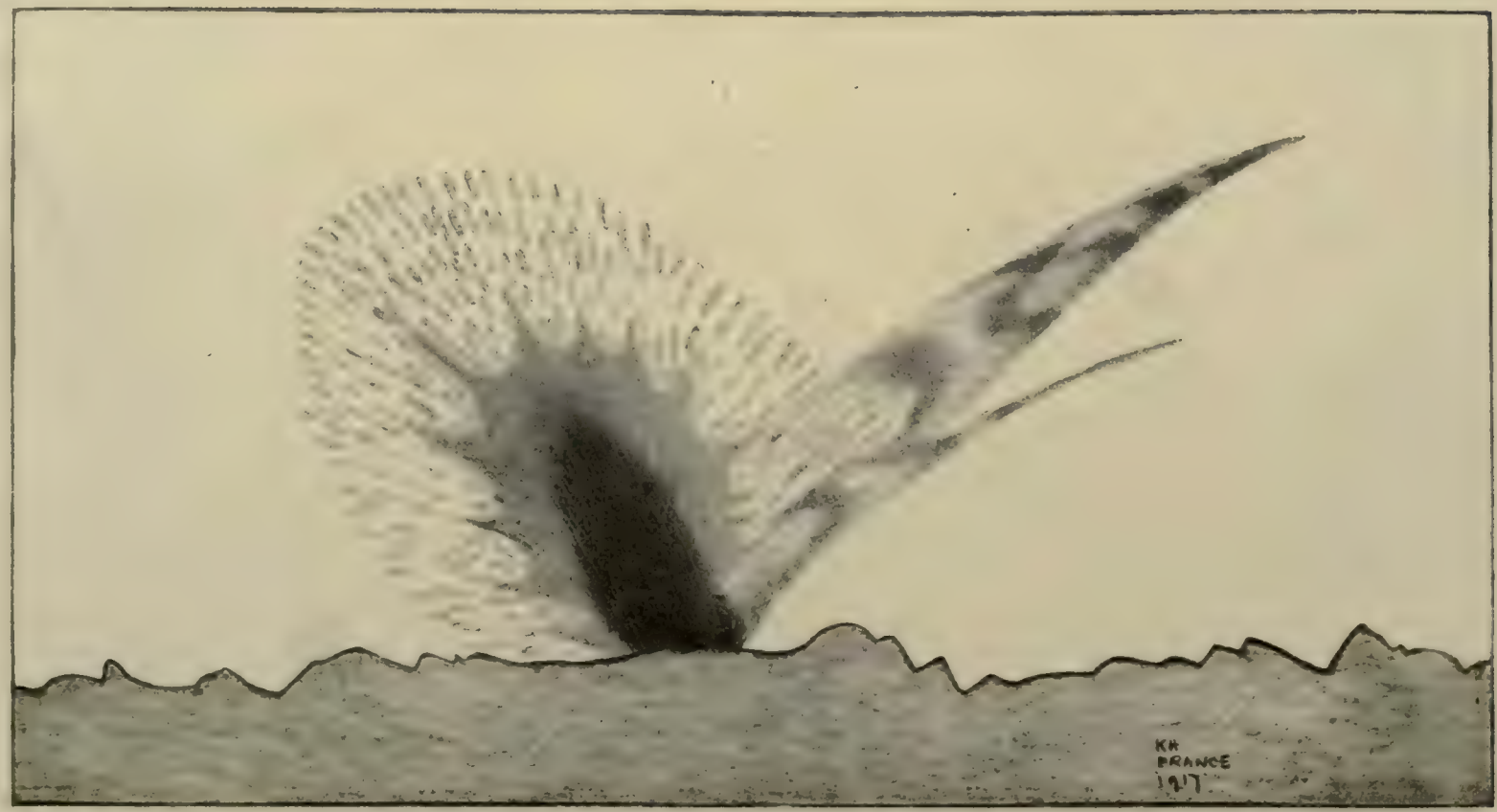

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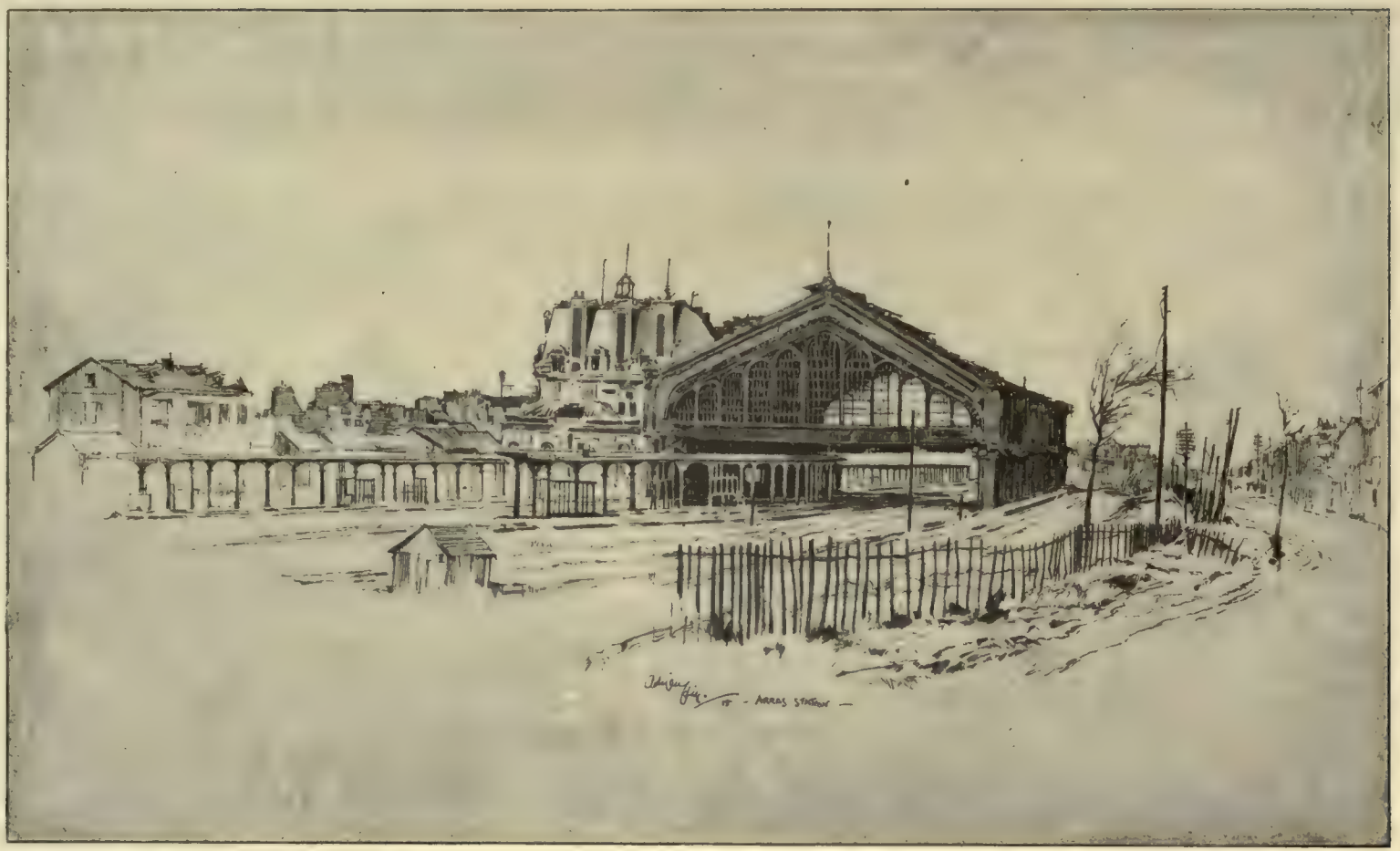

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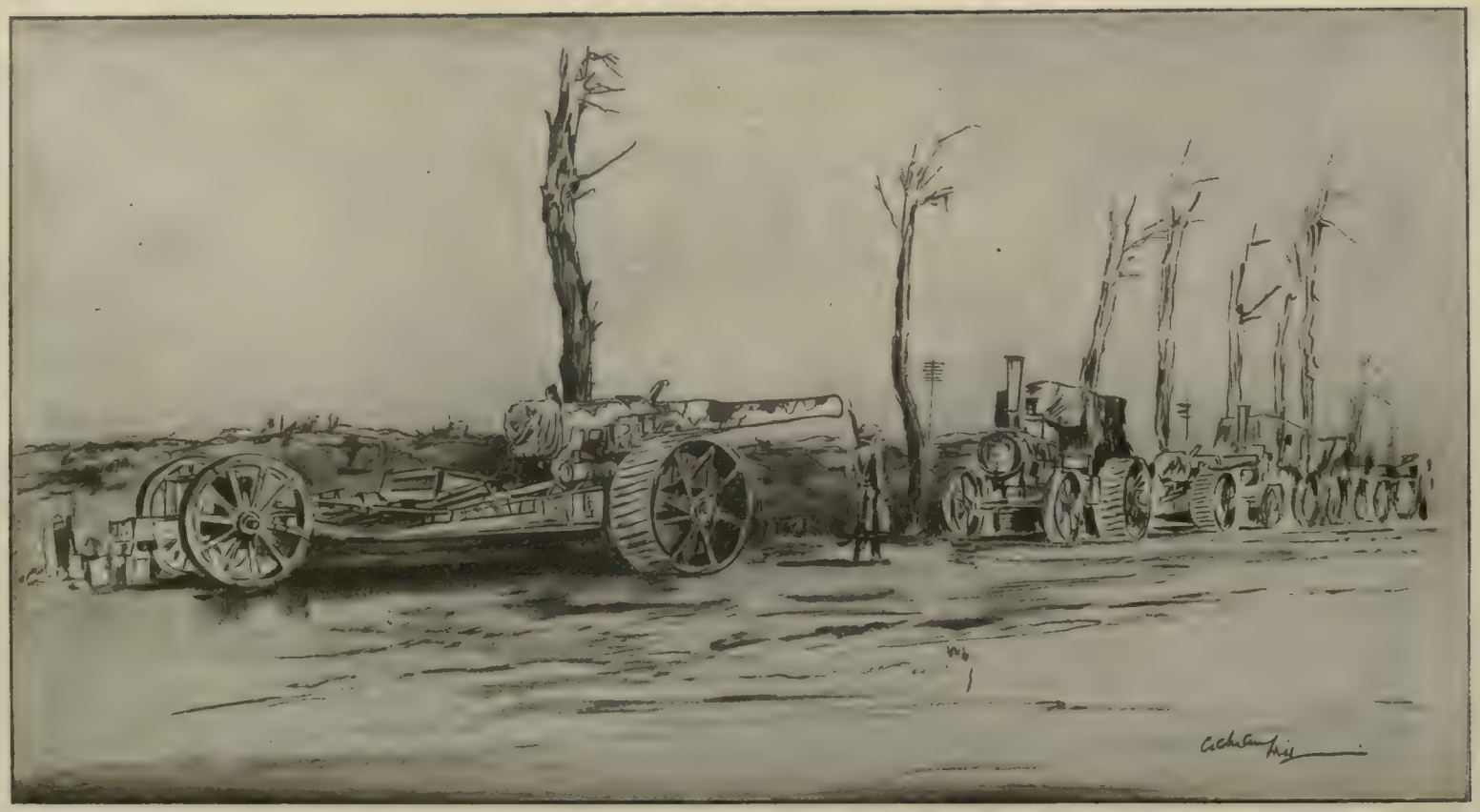

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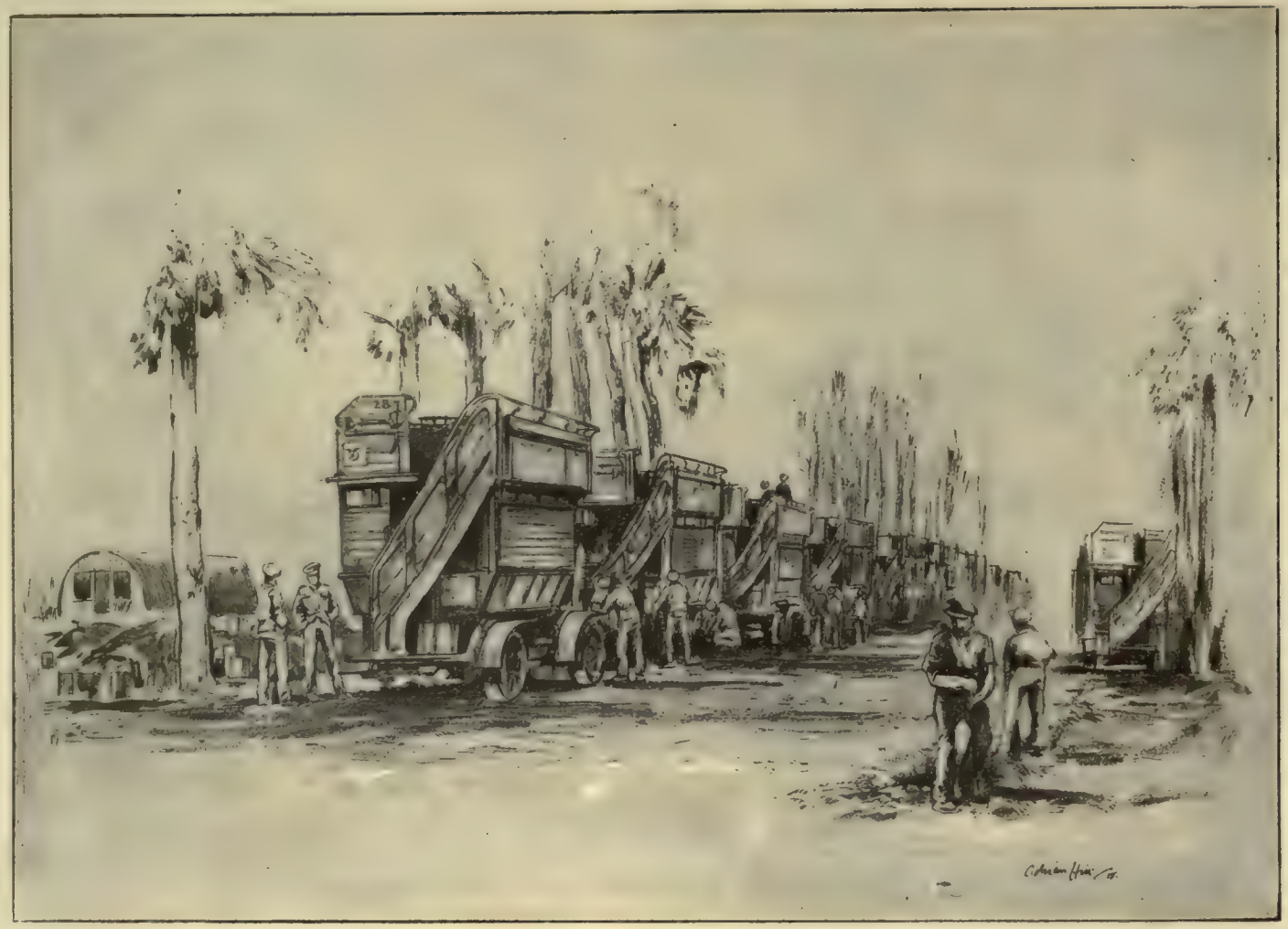

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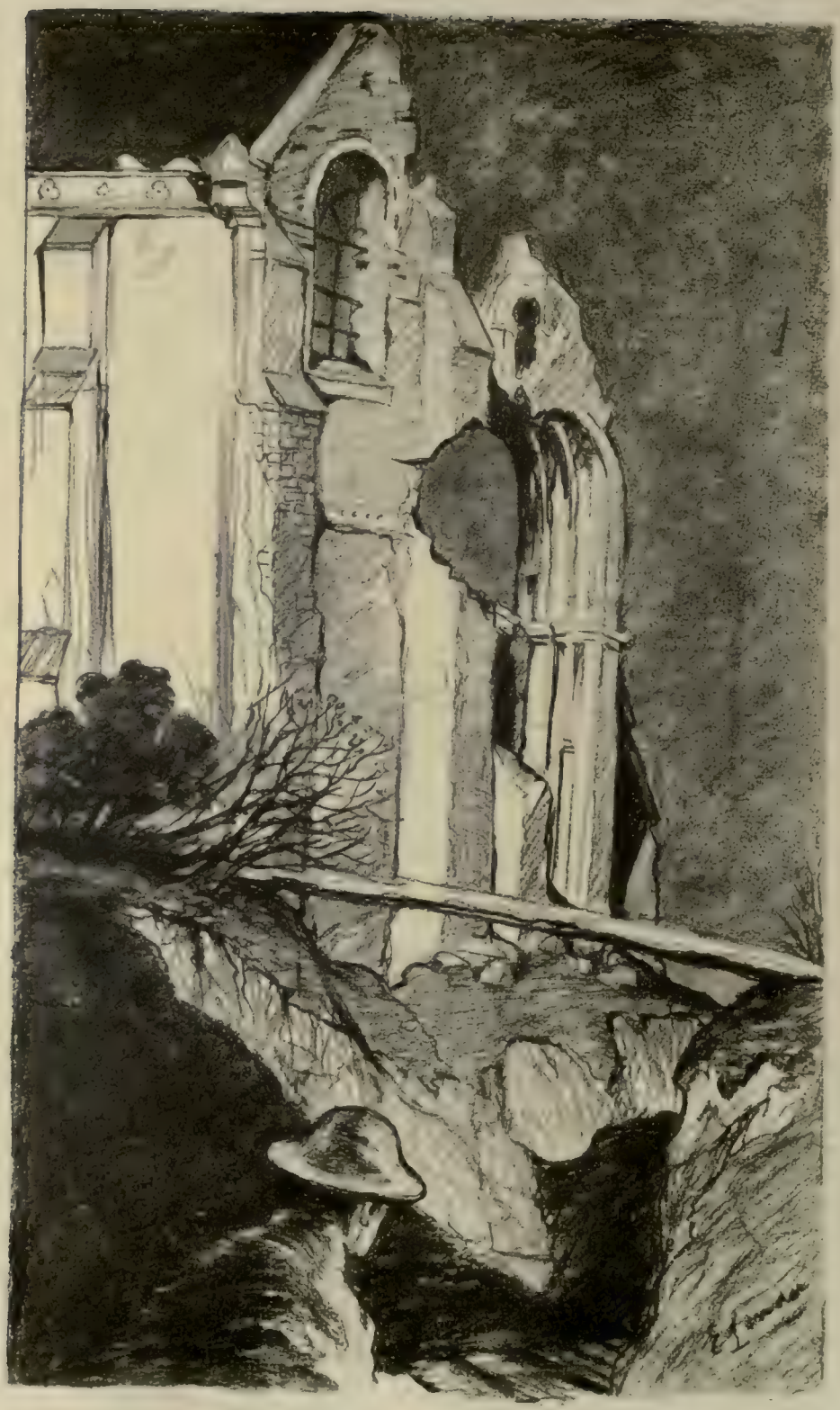

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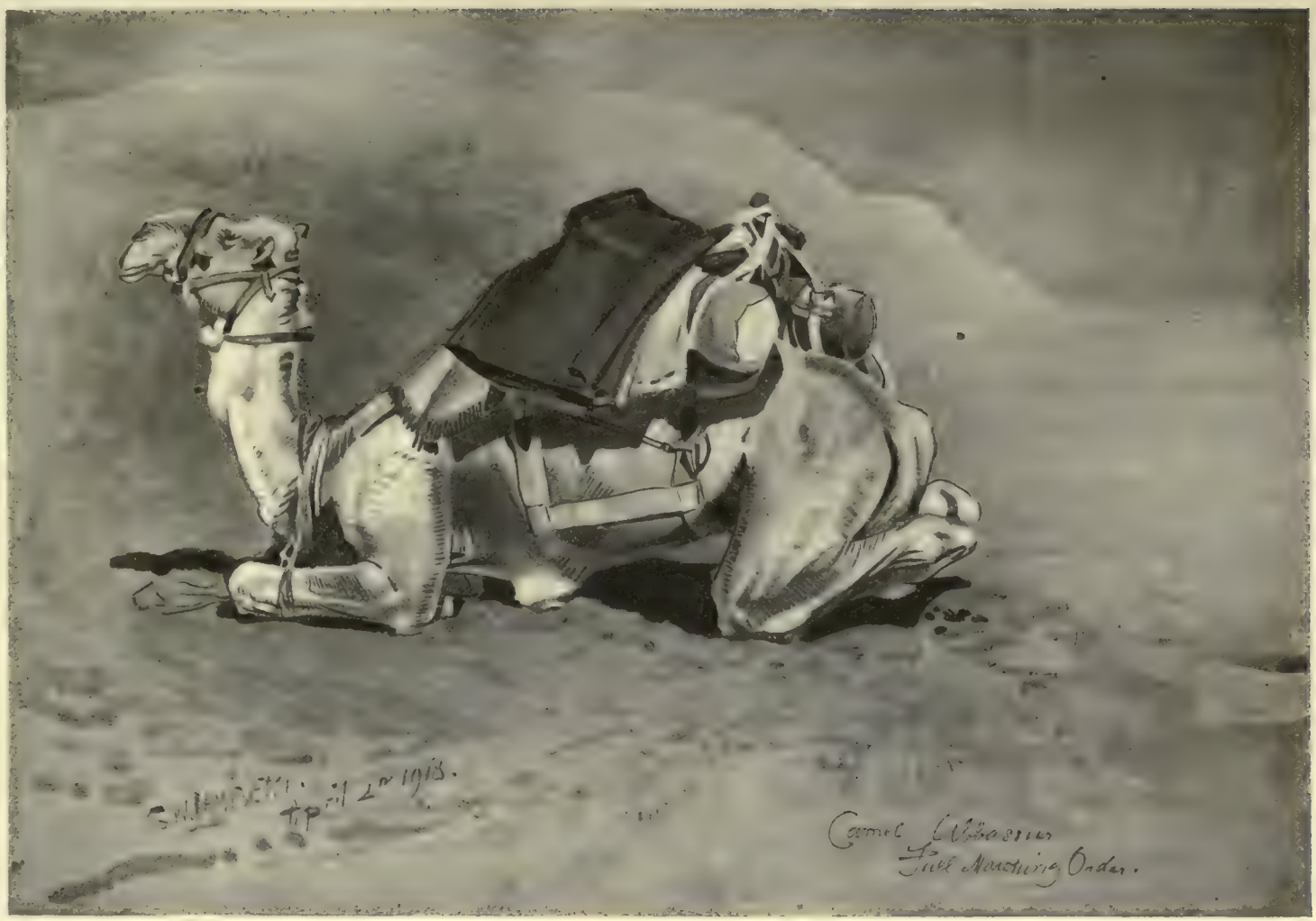

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